

C/24

→ A MEETING OF THE WARSAW PACT
HAS JUST BEEN CALLED.

ALL MILITARY LEAVES IN THE USSR
HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.

FBIS 80

OFFICIAL SOVIET GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

MOSCOW TASS IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE 1306 23 OCT 62 L

(TEXT) MOSCOW--U.S. PRESIDENT KENNEDY ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTED THE U.S. NAVY TO INTERCEPT ALL SHIPS PROCEEDING TO CUBA, TO SEARCH THEM, AND NOT TO LET PASS SHIPS CARRYING WEAPONS WHICH ARE DEFINED BY U.S. AUTHORITIES AS OFFENSIVE WEAPONS. ANOTHER ORDER WAS ISSUED TO CONDUCT CONTINUOUS AND THOROUGH OBSERVATION OVER CUBA. THUS, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, IN EFFECT, ESTABLISHES A NAVAL BLOCKADE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA. SIMULTANEOUSLY, THE LANDING BEGAN OF MORE U.S. TROOPS AT THE U.S. BASE OF GUANTANAMO, WHICH LIES ON CUBAN TERRITORY, AND U.S. ARMED FORCES HAVE BEEN ALERTED.

THE PRESIDENT TRIES TO JUSTIFY THESE UNPRECEDENTED AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS BY ALLEGING THAT A THREAT TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES ENANATES FROM CUBA.

THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY DRAWN ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF ALL COUNTRIES AND WORLD OPINION TO THE SERIOUS DANGER TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE CREATED BY THE POLICY FOLLOWED BY THE UNITED STATES WITH REGARD TO REPUBLIC OF CUBA. THE STATEMENT OF THE U.S. PRESIDENT SHOWS THAT AMERICAN IMPERIALIST CIRCLES BALK AT NOTHING IN THEIR ATTEMPTS TO STIFLE THE SOVEREIGN STATE, A U.N. MEMBER. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THEY ARE PREPARED TO PUSH THE WORLD INTO THE ABYSS OF A WAR CATASTROPHE.

THE PEOPLES OF ALL COUNTRIES MUST BE CLEARLY AWARE THAT, UNDERTAKING SUCH A GAMBLE, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS TAKING A STEP ALONG THE ROAD OF UNLEASHING A THERMONUCLEAR WORLD WAR. CYNICALLY FLOUTING INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT OF STATES AND THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE UNITED STATES USURPED THE RIGHT, AND ANNOUNCED THIS: TO ATTACK SHIPS OF OTHER STATES ON THE HIGH SEAS, THAT IS, TO ENGAGE IN PIRACY.

THE IMPERIALIST QUARTERS OF THE UNITED STATES SEEK TO DICTATE TO CUBA WHAT POLICY IT MUST CARRY THROUGH, WHAT DOMESTIC ORDER OUGHT TO BE ESTABLISHED, WHAT WEAPONS IT SHOULD HAVE FOR ITS DEFENSE.

BUT WHO GAVE THE UNITED STATES THE RIGHT TO ASSUME THE ROLE OF THE MASTER OF DESTINIES OF OTHER COUNTRIES AND PEOPLE? WHY SHOULD THE CUBANS SETTLE THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THEIR STATE NOT AT THEIR OWN DISCRETION BUT SO AS TO PLEASE THE UNITED STATES? CUBA BELONGS TO THE CUBAN PEOPLE AND ONLY THEY CAN BE MASTERS OF THEIR DESTINY.

DOCUMENT NO.
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☒

☐ DECLASSIFIED

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IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE U.N. CHARTER ALL COUNTRIES, LARGE AND SMALL, SHOULD BUILD THEIR LIFE IN THEIR OWN WAY, TO TAKE SUCH MEASURES FOR INSURING THEIR SECURITY AS THEY DEEM NECESSARY, TO OFFER REBUFF TO THE AGGRESSIVE FORCES WHICH ENCROACH ON THEIR FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE. TO IGNORE THIS MEANS TO UNDERMINE THE VERY FOUNDATIONS OF THE U.N. EXISTENCE, TO INTRODUCE JUNGLE LAW INTO INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES, TO GIVE RISE TO ENDLESS CONFLICTS AND WARS.

AT THIS, ANXIOUS HOUR, THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT REGARDS IT AS ITS DUTY TO ISSUE A SERIOUS WARNING TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, WARNING IT THAT BY TAKING THE MEASURES ANNOUNCED BY PRESIDENT KENNEDY IT ASSUMES A GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DESTINIES OF PEACE, IS RECKLESSLY PLAYING WITH FIRE.

THE LEADERS OF THE UNITED STATES MUST AT LAST UNDERSTAND THAT TIMES HAVE CHANGED COMPLETELY. ONLY MADMEN BANK ON A POLICY "FROM POSITIONS OF STRENGTH" AND BELIEVE THAT THIS POLICY WILL BRING ANY SUCCESS, WILL HELP TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO IMPOSE THEIR ORDER ON OTHER STATES. WHEREAS EARLIER THE UNITED STATES COULD REGARD ITSELF AS THE STRONGEST MILITARY POWER, IT NOW HAS NO FOUNDATIONS WHATEVER FOR THIS.

THERE IS ANOTHER FORCE IN THE WORLD, NO LESS POWERFUL, WHICH ADVOCATES THAT THE PEOPLES ARRANGE THEIR LIVES JUST AS THEY WANT. NOW, MORE THAN EVER, STATESMEN ARE CALLED ON TO DISPLAY COMPOSURE AND COMMONSENSE AND NOT SABER-RATTLING.

THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMS THAT ALL WEAPONS OF THE SOVIET UNION SERVE AND WILL SERVE THE PURPOSES OF DEFENSE AGAINST AGGRESSORS. IN THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION THE POWERFUL WEAPONS, INCLUDING NUCLEAR ROCKET WEAPONS, POSSESSED BY THE SOVIET UNION, ARE, AS ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD ACKNOWLEDGE, A DECISIVE MEANS WHICH DETERS THE AGGRESSIVE FORCES OF IMPERIALISM FROM ENGINEERING A WORLD WAR OF EXTERMINATION. THE SOVIET UNION WILL CONTINUE TO DISCHARGE THIS MISSION WITH ALL FIRMNESS AND CONSISTENCE.

THE U.S. PRESIDENT DECLARED IN HIS SPEECH THAT IF EVEN A SINGLE NUCLEAR BOMB FALLS ON U.S. TERRITORY, THE UNITED STATES WILL STRIKE A RETALIATORY BLOW. THIS STATEMENT IS PERMEATED WITH HYPOCRISY BECAUSE THE SOVIET UNION HAS ALREADY REPEATEDLY DECLARED THAT NOT A SINGLE SOVIET NUCLEAR BOMB WILL FALL EITHER ON THE UNITED STATES OR ON ANY OTHER COUNTRY UNLESS AGGRESSION IS COMMITTED. NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHICH HAVE BEEN CREATED BY THE SOVIET PEOPLE AND ARE IN THE HANDS OF THE PEOPLE WILL NEVER BE USED FOR THE PURPOSES OF AGGRESSION.

BUT IF THE AGGRESSORS TOUCH OFF A WAR, THE SOVIET UNION WILL STRIKE A VERY POWERFUL RETALIATORY BLOW.

THE SOVIET UNION HAS ALWAYS BEEN LOYAL TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE U.N. CHARTER, HAS BEEN CONSISTENTLY FOLLOWING A POLICY DIRECTED TOWARD THE PRESERVATION AND STRENGTHENING OF PEACE. THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS THE TREMENDOUS EFFORTS MADE BY THE SOVIET UNION FOR REDUCING INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS, ELIMINATING THE SEATS OF CONFLICTS AND DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES, FOR CARRYING INTO LIFE THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE OF STATES WITH DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS. IT WAS PRECISELY THE SOVIET UNION THAT PUT FORTH AND SUBSTANTIATED A PROGRAM FOR GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT WHICH IF IMPLEMENTED, WOULD OPEN UP THE WAY FOR ESTABLISHING A WORLD WITHOUT WARS, WITHOUT ARMS.

THESE PROPOSALS ARE ENLISTING INCREASING SUPPORT IN THE WORLD. THEY HAVE STRUCK FIRM ROOTS IN THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE, HAVE BECOME AN IMPERATIVE DEMAND OF THE TIME. IF NO PROGRESS HAS YET BEEN MADE IN DISARMAMENT, THE BLAME FOR THIS RESTS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND ITS NATO ALLIES. THEY ARE AFRAID OF DISARMAMENT; THEY DO NOT WANT TO GIVE UP THE BIG STICK, BY MEANS OF WHICH THEY ARE SEEKING TO IMPOSE THEIR WILL UPON OTHER COUNTRIES.

THE U. S. GOVERNMENT ACCUSES CUBA OF ALLEGEDLY CREATING A THREAT TO U. S. SECURITY. BUT WHO WILL BELIEVE CUBA COULD CREATE A THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES? IF ONE SPEAKS OF THE SIZE AND RESOURCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, OF THEIR ARMAMENTS, IT WILL NOT OCCUR TO ANY THOUGHTFUL STATESMAN THAT CUBA COULD CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY. (3)

IT IS HYPOCRISY, TO SAY THE LEAST, TO ALLEGE THAT SMALL CUBA CAN ENCROACH ON THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE CUBANS WANT TO SAFEGUARD THEIR HOME, THEIR INDEPENDENCE, AGAINST THE THREAT THAT COMES FROM THE UNITED STATES. THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA APPEALS TO REASON AND CONSCIENCE, URGES THE UNITED STATES TO ABANDON ITS ENCROACHMENTS ON CUBA'S INDEPENDENCE, TO ESTABLISH NORMAL RELATIONS WITH THE CUBAN STATE. IS IT NOT CONVINCING THAT THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY DECLARED ITS DESIRE TO SETTLE ALL DISPUTED QUESTIONS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE U. S. GOVERNMENT?

QUITE RECENTLY, SPEAKING AT THE U. N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION, CUBAN PRESIDENT DORTICOS REITERATED THAT CUBA "HAS ALWAYS EXPRESSED READINESS TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS ALONG USUAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, OR TO DISCUSS THE DIFFERENCES EXISTING BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA IN ANY OTHER WAY." NOW THE U. S. PRESIDENT SAYS THAT THESE STATEMENTS OF THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT ARE ALLEGEDLY NOT ENOUGH. BUT IN THIS WAY, ONE CAN VINDICATE ANY AGGRESSIVE ACTION, ANY ADVENTURE.

AS TO THE SOVIET UNION'S ASSISTANCE TO CUBA, IT IS AIMED SOLELY AT ENHANCING CUBA'S DEFENSE POTENTIAL.

AS STATED ON 3 SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR IN THE JOINT SOVIET-CUBAN COMMUNIQUE ON THE STAY IN THE SOVIET UNION OF A CUBAN DELEGATION, CONSISTING OF E. GUEVARA AND E. ARAGONES, THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT GRANTED THE REQUEST OF THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT TO RENDER AID TO CUBA BY SUPPLYING ARMS. THE COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT THESE ARMS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT WERE DESIGNED EXCLUSIVELY FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES. THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES FIRMLY STAND ON THESE POSITIONS AT PRESENT, TOO.

SOVIET ASSISTANCE IN STRENGTHENING THE DEFENSES OF CUBA HAS BEEN NECESSITATED BY THE FACT THAT THE CUBAN REPUBLIC SINCE ITS VERY INCEPTION HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO CONTINUOUS THREATS AND PROVOCATIONS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

THE UNITED STATES WILL BALK AT NOTHING, INCLUDING THE ORGANIZING OF ARMED INTERVENTION AGAINST CUBA, AS WAS THE CASE IN APRIL 1961, TO DEPRIVE THE CUBAN PEOPLE OF THE FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE THEY HAVE GAINED, TO PLACE THEM UNDER THE DOMINATION OF AMERICAN MONOPOLIES AGAIN, TO MAKE CUBA A U.S. PUPPET.

THE UNITED STATES IS DEMANDING THAT MILITARY EQUIPMENT CUBA NEEDS FOR SELF-DEFENSE BE REMOVED FROM CUBAN TERRITORY, A DEMAND WHICH NATURALLY NO STATE WHICH VALUES ITS INDEPENDENCE CAN MEET. H

THE SOVIET UNION IS IN FAVOR OF ALL FOREIGN TROOPS BEING WITHDRAWN FROM ALIEN TERRITORIES TO WITHIN THEIR NATIONAL BOUNDARIES. IF THE UNITED STATES IS REALLY CONCERNED OVER THE CONSOLIDATION OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH OTHER STATES AND WANTS TO SECURE DURABLE WORLD PEACE, AS PRESIDENT KENNEDY DECLARED IN HIS SPEECH ON 22 OCTOBER, IT SHOULD ACCEPT SOVIET PROPOSALS AND WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT, CLOSE DOWN ITS MILITARY BASES ON FOREIGN TERRITORIES IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD.

HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES, WHICH HAS FLUNG ITS ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, STUBBORNLY REFUSES TO ACCEPT THIS PROPOSAL. THE UNITED STATES IS USING THEM TO INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES AND TO REALIZE ITS AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS. IT IS AMERICAN IMPERIALISM THAT HAS ASSUMED THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL GENDARME. U.S. SPOKESMEN CONTINUALLY BOAST THAT AMERICAN PLANES CAN ATTACK THE SOVIET UNION ANY TIME, DROP AMERICAN BOMBS ON PEACEFUL TOWNS AND VILLAGES AND STRIKE HEAVY BLOWS. NOT A DAY PASSES THAT STATESMEN AND MILITARY LEADERS, AS WELL AS THE PRESS OF THE UNITED STATES DO NOT THREATEN THAT AMERICAN SUBMARINES WITH POLARIS MISSILES, WHICH ARE PROWLING MANY SEAS AND OCEANS, COULD STRIKE A NUCLEAR BLOW AT THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER PEACE-LOVING STATES.

IN VIEW OF THESE FACTS, PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ALLEGATION THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, IN ITS PRESUMPTUOUS DEMANDS TO DEPRIVE CUBA OF THE MEANS OF DEFENSE, IS GUIDED BY THE INTERESTS OF PEACE HAS A PARTICULARLY FALSE RING.

PEACE-LOVING STATES CANNOT BUT PROTEST AGAINST THE PIRATIC ACTIONS DECLARED BY THE U.S. PRESIDENT WITH REGARD TO THE SHIPS SAILING TOWARD CUBA'S SHORES, AGAINST THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTROL OVER SHIPS OF SOVEREIGN STATES ON THE HIGH SEAS. IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT AMERICAN STATESMEN ARE FOND OF SPEAKING ABOUT THEIR DEVOTION TO THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, OF HARANGUING ABOUT THE NECESSITY OF LAW AND ORDER IN THE WORLD.

BUT IN POINT OF FACT THEY APPARENTLY BELIEVE THAT LAWS ARE MEANT NOT FOR THE UNITED STATES BUT FOR OTHER COUNTRIES. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ACTUAL BLOCKADE OF THE CUBAN SHORES BY THE UNITED STATES IS A PROVOCATIVE MOVE, AN UNHEARD OF VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, A CHALLENGE TO ALL PEACE-LOVING NATIONS.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: TASS HAS TAKEN A 15-MINUTE BREAK)

(M O R E)

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